

A LEVEL PSYCHOLOGY ENROLMENT TASK

Task 1: Influential Psychologists

Look up the Psychologists below and answer the following questions in preparation for your first Psychology lesson. Be prepared to share your knowledge with other students in your class.

John Watson

1. The following is a famous quote from Watson. What do you think he means?



"Give me a dozen healthy infants, well-formed, and my own specified world to bring them up in and I'll guarantee to take anyone at random and train him to become any type of specialist I might select—doctor, lawyer, artist, merchant-chief, and, yes, even beggarman and thief, regardless of his talents, penchants, tendencies, abilities, vocations, and race of his ancestors. I am going beyond my facts and I admit it, but so have the advocates of the contrary and they have been doing it for many thousands of years."

2. Explain the work Watson is best known for
3. Make a note of an additional interesting fact about Watson

Adrian Raine

1. Who is Raine and where does he come from?
2. Outline Raine's most influential work
3. Make a note of an additional interesting fact about Raine



Stanley Milgram

1. Explain the work is Milgram best known for
2. How may Milgram's work be considered controversial?
3. Make a note of an additional interesting fact about Milgram

Elizabeth Loftus

1. Outline the work Loftus is best known for
2. Explore a real-life trial Loftus been a part of and share what happened and the impact of her involvement
3. Find and write a famous quote by Loftus and be willing to share what you think she means



Ed Diener

1. The following is a famous quote from Diener. What do you think he means?



“It appears that the way people perceive the world is much more important to happiness than objective circumstances.”

2. Explain the work is Diener most known for
3. Find and write another quote by Diener and be willing to share what you think he means

Task 2: Psychological Research Context

Read each scenario below and answer the questions following each one in preparation for one of your first Psychology lessons. Be prepared to discuss your answers with other students in your class.

1.

A positive psychologist wanted to investigate if happiness increased in relation to annual income. She decided to collect the data using a questionnaire that she posted on-line. She collected information about the participants using questions such as:

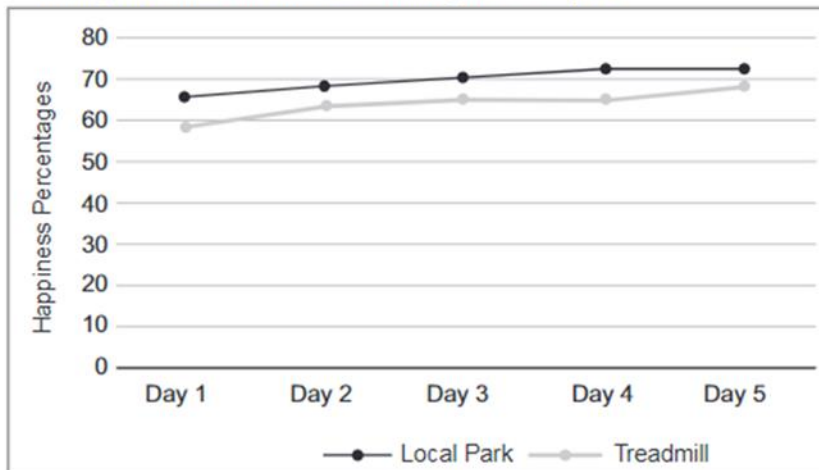
9. In £, estimate your total annual income.	£
10. In £, estimate your total annual outgoings.	£

The psychologist then asked all of the participants to answer questions that measured their happiness level. The psychologist decided to correlate the total score obtained from the happiness questions with the participant's total annual income.

- a) Outline what may be an issue with the questions asked in the above research
- b) Give one reason why collecting the data online in this research is advantageous
- c) Explain how else you might investigate happiness
- d) Identify the graph you would use to display the data in the above research

2. Psychologists have known for a long time that walking has a beneficial impact on our mood. However, a psychologist wanted to investigate if walking on a treadmill is as beneficial as walking in a local park. The psychologist advertised in a local coffee shop for volunteers. She then randomly allocated 15 participants to walk on a treadmill and 15 participants to walk in a local park. All participants agreed to take a one-hour walk each day for 5 days. All participants recorded their mood in terms of a happiness percentage following their walk (0% = no happiness to 100% = most happy they have ever been).

Fig.3. Graph representing the daily mean happiness percentages of those walking on a treadmill and those walking in a local park.



- Identify the independent variable in the above research
- Identify the dependent variable in the above research
- Identify one other factor (other than walking) that may have an impact on our mood
- Explain another way (other than by volunteer as above) in which the psychologist could have collected participants to take part in the research

3.

A developmental psychologist was concerned about the amount of time young people seem to spend using social media. She decided to conduct a semi-structured interview with a group of 10-14 year olds. She initially asked her 12 year old neighbour to participate. She then asked the neighbour to recruit two other participants. Each of these participants then also recruited another two participants each. By the end of the research the psychologist had conducted seven semi-structured interviews. One question the developmental psychologist asked each participant was 'How many hours have you spent using social media in the last week?' The results for this question are displayed in the table below:

Participant number	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Number of hours spent using social media in the last week.	14	10	15	35	14	15	13

- Explain what is meant by a 'semi-structured interview'
- Write another question that the psychologist could have asked the 10-14 yr olds
- Calculate the mean number of hours 10-14 yr olds use social media. Show your calculations
- Explain a reason why the data collected by the psychologist may not be accurate